Diseases" (ASCAD) and "Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme" (FMD-CP). Under "ASCAD", immunisation of animals against economically important diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease, Haemorrhagic septicaemia, Anthrax etc. have been envisaged and the State Governments can take up the vaccination of any of the diseases which are important in different areas of their State. The districts of Mahboob Nagar and Nizamabad can be taken up for vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease under: "Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases" (ASCAD), for which the State Government have to submit an Annual Action Plan. We have not yet received the action plan for 2003-04 from Andhra Pradesh. Under the component "Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP)" a programme is being implemented in 54 selected districts of the country which include 4 districts of Andhra Pradesh, namely, Rangareddy, Medak, Chittoor and Ananthpur.

Vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†*286. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the region-wise, subject-wise and post-wise details of vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas as on 30th June, 2003; and

(b) by when these posts will be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) & (b) Information is being collected.

Bio-farm in Orissa

*287. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been impressed upon Orissa to set up a bio-farm in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State has asked for help in the matter from the Centre, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether bio-farms growing medicinal plants, have been set up in any of the States/areas; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government of India is promoting bio-farming through the use of organic sources of nutrients such as green manure, farm yard manure, compost, bio-fertilizer & vermin-compost in all the States including Orissa. No proposal from the State of Orissa has been received specific for the bio-farm. However, based on a proposal received from the Government of Orissa, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) had approved, on 3.11.2002, an Agri-Export Zone for Ginger and Turmeric in Orissa State, which included the organic production of Ginger. No Bio-farm for growing medicinal plants has been set up by the Government of India.

Efficiency in Railways

†*288. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a dialogue with the Railways personnel has been held directly to improve the efficiency in Railways and to stop rail accidents so that the deficiencies could be removed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other steps being taken to remove the deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) To improve efficiency and productivity of Indian Railways, regular dialogue is held with representatives of railway personnel. The deliberations, encompassing various issues related to railway operation and management are a continuous process. They have led to improved industrial relations, better working environment, higher job satisfaction, along with higher safety consciousness.

Recently, a two-day workshop on Safety on Indian Railways was held, wherein representatives of organized labour, officers' associations,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.